

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
AND SCIENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
AND
AGENCE UNIVERSITAIRE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT SCIENTIFIC AND
ACADEMIC RESEARCH PROGRAMS

the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia (location: Yerevan, Armenia), (hereinafter referred to as “the MES”), represented by the Minister MR LEVON MKRTCHYAN on one side

and

the Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (location: Montreal, Canada-Quebec), (hereinafter referred to as “the AUF”), represented by the Rector MR JEAN-PAUL DE GAUDEMAR, on the other side,

both hereinafter jointly referred to as “Parties”,

having regard to the Agreement on Founding a Campus Numérique Francophone in Armenia, concluded between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Agence universitaire de la Francophonie on 5 October 2010,

taking into account the fact that the establishment of the European Francophone Networks will strengthen the integration of Armenia in the European Research and Higher Education Areas;

agreed on the following:

Article 1

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as “MOU”) is to develop research and technology excellence relations of the research laboratories of Central and Eastern Europe with Armenia fostering the mobility of young researchers and new cooperation in the science and technology development sectors.

The present MOU covers the following research sectors taking into account the science and technology development priorities of Armenia:

1. Physics and Astronomy
2. Life Sciences
3. Earth Sciences
4. Social Sciences and Humanities
5. Archaeology and paleontology
6. Urban Development

In the future, other sectors of science may also be included in the Calls for research proposals by the consent of both Parties.

Article 2

The cooperation will be implemented within the framework of the Calls for proposals, the provisions of which shall be defined by the Parties within the framework of the Joint Committee ensuring the implementation of the present MOU.

The Joint Committee shall consist of representatives of the AUF, the MES and the MES State Committee of Science (hereinafter referred to as "the SCS").

The Joint Calls shall be envisaged for francophone or partially francophone young Armenian researchers registered in either AUF member universities or other universities and research institutions of Armenia. The relevant research proposals must be submitted to the AUF and the SCS. The projects shall be implemented in one of the laboratories of AUF member universities primarily in the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Belarus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Croatia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova, Montenegro, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Russia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Article 3

The SCS is the authorized body responsible for the implementation of the present MOU.

In view of implementation of the present MOU a separate agreement regulating the terms and conditions of the Calls for proposals shall be signed between the SCS and the AUF.

Article 4

Within the framework of the present MOU a Call for proposals shall be announced every year. The candidates shall be assessed by the Joint Committee of experts appointed by the AUF, the MES and the SCS. After the consultations, the Joint Committee will make a joint decision about the financial support to be provided to the selected applicants.

Article 5

The mobility of the candidates may last from 1 (one) to maximally 6 (six) months.

The budget envisaged for each of the Calls shall be defined separately, proceeding from the allocated budget means for the relevant year.

The funding allocated by the AUF and the SCS shall only cover the travel, insurance and accommodation expenses of the researchers primarily in the territory of Central and Eastern Europe. The financial support will be implemented in accordance with the rules operating in the AUF and the SCS.

Any other expenditure necessary for the implementation of the joint programs must be covered at the own expense of the partner laboratories or by means of other resources.

Article 6

The aspects with regard to the intellectual property rights related to the implementation of the cooperation defined by the present MOU shall be subject to the laws and regulations of two Parties.

Article 7

The programs being implemented within the framework of this MOU shall become the subject matter of the communication agreed upon by the MES, the SCS and the AUF. The Parties shall have the right to internally

communicate about the implementation of the programs subject to present MOU. All the means of communication as well as the common official documents will bear the logos of the MES, the SCS and the AUF underlining the cooperation being implemented between both institutions.

Article 8

The present MOU shall remain valid for a period of 5 (five) years and shall enter into force on the day of signing. The period of validity of the present MOU shall automatically be prolonged for another 5 (five) years unless one of the Parties informs in writing the other Party of its intention to terminate the MOU 6 (six) months prior to expiry.

Article 9

The present MOU may be modified and amended through the written agreement of the Parties via separate protocols. Such protocols shall become inseparable part of the present MOU.

Article 10

Any arguments and disagreements during the interpretation and implementation of the present MOU shall be settled by the Parties through negotiations and consultations.

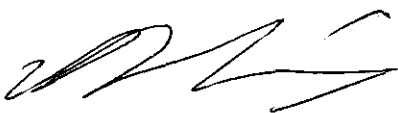
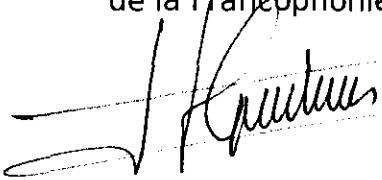
In case of persistent disagreement, the conflict shall be brought before an *ad hoc arbitration commission composed of three arbitrators: one designated by MES, the second designated by AUF and the third, who chairs the commission, appointed by mutual agreement of the Parties.* The chairperson of this commission must be a national of the third country and cannot be or have been an employee of MES, of AUF or of any institution associated with the projects supported by this MOU.

Article 11

The present MOU does not create rights and obligations under public international law.

The present MOU has been executed in English, French and Armenian in two original copies. In case of disagreements with regard to the translation the French version shall prevail.

Executed on 20 July 2016, in Paris.

<p>By the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia Minister of Education and Science</p>  <p>Levon MKRTCHYAN</p>	<p>By the Rector of Agence universitaire de la Francophonie</p>  <p>Jean-Paul de GAUDEMAR</p>
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